

# Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley

April 28, 2023



## Contact Us

Monroe County District  
Attorney's Office

47 S. Fitzhugh Street  
Rochester, NY 14614

(585) 753-4780



## Monroe County District Attorney's Office

### Weekly Newsletter



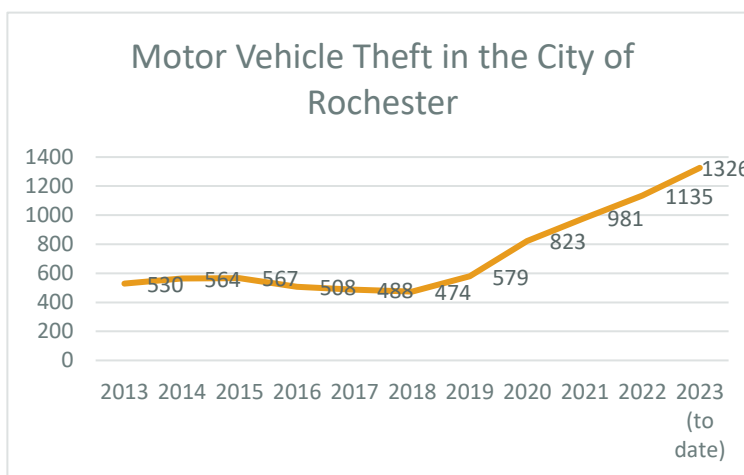
Welcome to the weekly newsletter from Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley.

## Message from Sandra Doorley

### Update on Stolen Cars in Monroe County

*Since my update on different types of car cases in Monroe County last month, the numbers are only growing.*

*As you can see below, the City of Rochester has already surpassed last year's record high number of motor vehicle thefts in four months. Please note, this reflects the number of motor vehicle theft incidents, not arrests. You can view the data from the Rochester Police Department Open Data Portal below:*



*As of 9:00AM on April 28, 2023, 224 motor vehicle theft arrests from the entire county have been filed with my office this year. 36 of these cases are juvenile offenders in criminal youth part. 66%, or 24, of the youth part cases were already transferred to family court. These numbers do not include the many stolen car cases that are immediately sent to Family Court. If the offender is under the age of 18, and is only charged with a misdemeanor such as Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, that case goes directly to Family Court. These cases never touch our office and are handled by the Juvenile Prosecutor's Office. These cases are sealed and we do not have access to this information.*

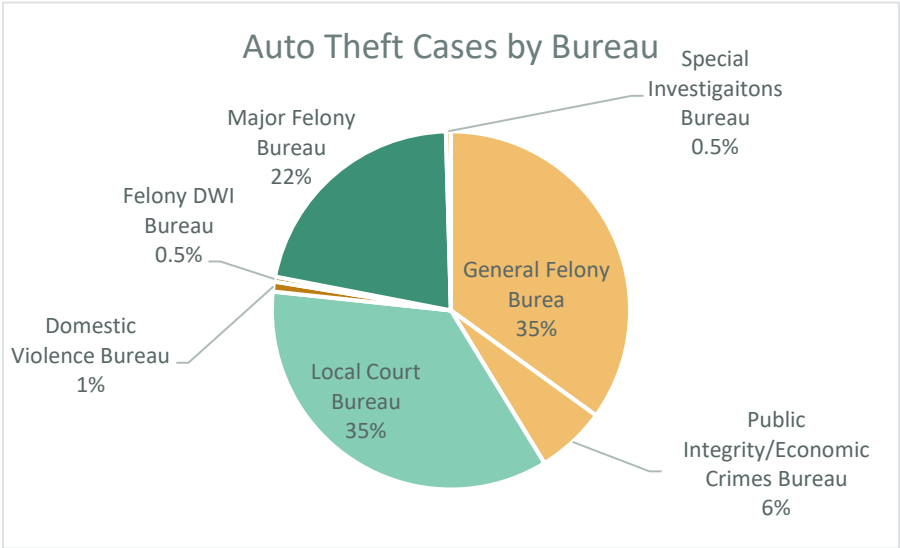
# Homicide Update

So far in 2023:

City of Rochester Total:  
14

Monroe County Total: 17

Motor vehicle cases filed with the Monroe County District Attorney’s Office touch many of our bureaus, but most of them are housed in our Local Court Bureau and General Felony Bureau based on the value of the motor vehicle. You will also see cases in the Major Felony Bureau, which houses Youth Part and any generally deals with carjacking and “smash and grab” cases.



If you look at previous years, there has been an increase in the intake of cases within our office.

Motor Vehicle Theft Stats	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
New Cases	305	318	336	242	481	607

The newest trend of locating stolen car cases are innocent community members purchasing vehicles on facebook marketplace and upon attempting to register their recently purchased car, they find out the car is stolen. These transactions add additional victims to these cases. Please be safe and careful when purchasing vehicles from private owners.

Regarding smash and grab defendants, we have two open cases. One is **Joshua Gonzalez**, who was arrested by the Irondequoit Police Department in relation to a smash and grab at a GameStop. Based on evidence at the time of arrest, he was charged with Burglary in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree and Petit Larceny.

The second case is in criminal Youth Part. 16-year-old **Theodice Parks** was arrested for eight smash and grabs, including the Comedy at the Carlson, Record Archive, Liberty Family Restaurant, East Avenue Liquor Store, Universal Liquor, Rookie’s Sports Bar, and Russell’s Ice Cream. Thankfully, due to the hard work of Youth Part Assistant District Attorney Matthew Schiano, this case will stay in criminal Youth Part and will not be transferred to Family Court. This

*required an extensive application to the court. These applications are not frequently granted and are often sent to Family Court.*

*Other smash and grab arrests were transferred to Family Court without being sent to our office first, and there are many offenses where an arrest has yet to be made.*

*Together, with our partners in law enforcement and city government, we are working diligently to do our part in holding these auto theft offenders accountable.*

*Sandra*

## Highlights from the MCDA's Office

27-year-old **Jaylan Golden** was convicted of two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree for possessing an illegal weapon and illegal narcotics on November 15, 2022. Jalen Golden will be sentenced on June 20, 2023, in front of Monroe County Court Judge Randall. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm and Assistant District Attorney Aliyah Fowler, both of the Major Felony Bureau.

New York State Supreme Court Justice Sinclair sentenced 31-year-old **Arthur Allen** to 25 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision for the shooting death of Jonathan Walker. Arthur Allen previously pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree. On December 19, 2020, Rochester Police Officers were called to Resolute Circle, an apartment complex, for the report of two men shot. One man, Jonathan Walker, was killed, and a second man was shot. The second victim was transported to Strong Memorial Hospital, where he was later released. After a thorough investigation by the Rochester Police Department, Marcos Collier and Arthur Allen were arrested. On February 10, 2023, **Marcas Collier**, was sentenced to 15 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision for the shooting death of Jonathan Walker. He previously pled guilty to Manslaughter in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree. The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney Constance Patterson, of the Special Victims Unit.

49-year-old **Erica Betlem** was sentenced by Rochester City Court Judge Barrett to three years of probation and ordered to serve 200 hours of community service. The defendant must also make full restitution in the amount of \$31,573. A joint investigation by the Office of the Inspector General and Monroe County Department of Human Services found that Defendant married her husband in May of 2012, after which time she applied for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits through the Monroe County Department of Human Services. In doing so, the defendant failed to report her marriage, that she lived with her husband, or any of the household income received through his employment, which would have impacted her eligibility and/or the amount of benefits to which she would have been entitled. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Karina Pinch, of the Public Integrity/Economic Crimes Bureau.

32-year-old **Donovan Humphrey** was sentenced by New York State Supreme Court Justice Renzi to 15 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision. Donovan Humphrey previously pled guilty to Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree for the illegal possession of a firearm on May 6, 2022 in the City of Rochester. This case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jessica Wagner, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

19-year-old **Hannah Thomas** was sentenced by Family Court Judge Romeo to 25 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision for her role in the death of her mother, Ottilia Piros. On December 29, 2020, Richard Avila and Hannah Thomas, who were 16 years old and 17 years old at the time, were pulled over for a traffic stop in Saint Robert, Missouri. The Saint Robert Police Department attempted to make contact with their family members, at which point the Greece Police Department arrived at Ottilia Piros's house in the Town of Greece for a welfare check. Upon their arrival, they found Ms. Piros deceased from a gunshot wound. Both Richard Avila and Hannah Thomas were extradited to New York to face homicide charges. This case was investigated by the Greece Police Department, with assistance from the Monroe County Crime Lab and the Saint Robert Police Department. Richard Alivia was also sentenced to 25 years in the New York State Department of Corrections plus 5 years of post-release supervision on February 28, 2023. The case was prosecuted by Special Assistant District Attorney Kevin Sunderland, of the Special Victims Unit and Assistant District Attorney Emily Chisholm, of the Major Felony Bureau.

**India Barr-Blount, Jeyzon Cotton, and Tyrone Sanders** were indicted on Murder in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Attempted Robbery in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, Attempted Robbery in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, and two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree for the murder of Kailee White on July 30, 2022. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Burak Serbetci, of the Major Felony Bureau.

**Daniel Ponder** and **Deshawn Walker** were indicted on Burglary in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, two counts of Kidnapping in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Attempted Assault in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Endangering the Welfare of a Child, and Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree for the violent kidnapping of a mother and her child. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gallagher, Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau, and Assistant District Attorney Sara Vanstrydonck, Chief of the Special Victims Unit.

**Joshua Reis** was indicted on Operator Leave Scene of Incident Resulting in Death in relation to the vehicular death of Brenda Gail Wells. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ryan Mulachy, Chief of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

**Domingo Lopez-Diaz** was indicted on Robbery in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, two counts of Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Criminal Mischief in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, and Criminal Obstruction of Breathing or Blood Circulation for multiple domestic related assaults during March 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jonathan Francisco, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

**Jahiem Lawhorn** was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree in relation to an illegal possession of a firearm on April 9, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Brandon Gonzalez, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Steven Cheeks, Jr.** was indicted on Operator Leave Scene of Incident Resulting in Death, Tampering with Physical Evidence, and Insurance Fraud in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree in relation to the death of Youen Nhong on February 12, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Anthony DiPerna, of the Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

**Cassandra Hogan, Tyreek Nelson, and Kevin Small** were indicted on two counts of Burglary in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree in relation to a home burglary on April 2, 2023, in the City of Rochester. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Anthony Freeman of the Major Felony Bureau.

**Iverson Davis** was indicted on Robbery in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree in relation to the armed robbery of an individual on January 21, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Camille Ingino of the Major Felony Bureau.

**Jellia Lockhart** was indicted on Manslaughter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree in relation to the death of Charlaura Lockhart and the assault of a second victim on January 1, 2023. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Camille Ingino of the Major Felony Bureau.

**Rickland Williams** was indicted on ten counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, three counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 5<sup>th</sup> Degree, two counts of Criminally Using Drug Paraphernalia in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and two counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child. These charges are in relation to an illegal narcotics operation. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Hyatt, Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Shavar Beasley** was indicted on Course of Sexual Conduct Against a Child in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Sexual Abuse in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, and Endangering the Welfare of a Child in relation to the sexual abuse of a child under the age of thirteen. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Ralph Alloco, of the Special Victims Unit.

**Tony Davis** was indicted on Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree in relation to the illegal possession of a weapon and narcotics. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Kennedy, of the Special Investigations Bureau.

**Deon Green** was indicted on Aggravated Criminal Contempt, Assault in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Criminal Contempt in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree, Criminal Contempt in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, Criminal Mischief in the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, Criminal Obstruction of Breathing or Blood Circulation, and Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree in relation to multiple domestic incidents, including violations of order of protections. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jonathan Francisco, of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

## MCDA in the Community

Assistant District Attorney Karina Pinch, of the Public Integrity/Economic Crime Bureau spoke with the students of the Women in Business Club at the SUNY Geneseo. ADA Pinch discussed her background in law and business and how it led to her career in prosecuting White Collar crimes.



## MCDA in the News

<https://13wham.com/news/local/teen-sentenced-for-killing-mother-in-greece>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/man-indicted-on-several-charges-following-rochester-amber-alert>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/crime/man-pleads-guilty-to-weapons-charges-after-police-shootout/>

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/rochester/shooter-sentenced-for-resolute-circle-homicide/>

<https://www.whec.com/top-news/man-sentenced-to-25-years-for-fatal-2020-shooting-at-resolute-circle-apartments/>

<https://13wham.com/news/local/man-receives-25-year-sentence-in-2020-fatal-shooting-at-resolute-circle-apartments>

<https://ig.ny.gov/news/monroe-county-woman-sentenced-after-pleading-guilty-welfare-fraud-0>

<https://www.whec.com/local/local-leaders-commemorate-national-crime-victims-rights-week/>



We are hiring attorneys! If you are a recent law school graduate or an experienced attorney and are interested in a career in criminal law and public service, apply with us today! More information is available on [monroecounty.gov/da](http://monroecounty.gov/da).